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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

On January 21, 2003

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Kathy A. Wagner

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Peter Wagner, et al.

Application No.: 09/820,210

Filed: March 27, 2001

For: SITE-SPECIFIC COVALENT
BIOCONJUGATION OF PROTEINS

Examiner: Ceperley, Mary

Art Unit: 1641

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION
REQUIREMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed 08/16/02, Applicants elect the claims of Group I (Claims 1-13, 24, 26, 27, 29, 31, and 34) for prosecution on the merits drawn to heterofunctional crosslinking reagents and conjugates. Applicants petition to extend the period for response in the above-identified patent application for five months, from September 16, 2002 to February 16, 2003. A Fee Transmittal authorizing the Commissioner to charge the petition fee to our deposit account is attached.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

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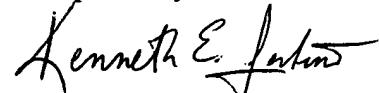
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If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,



Kenneth E. Jenkins, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 51846

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